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30 September 1958

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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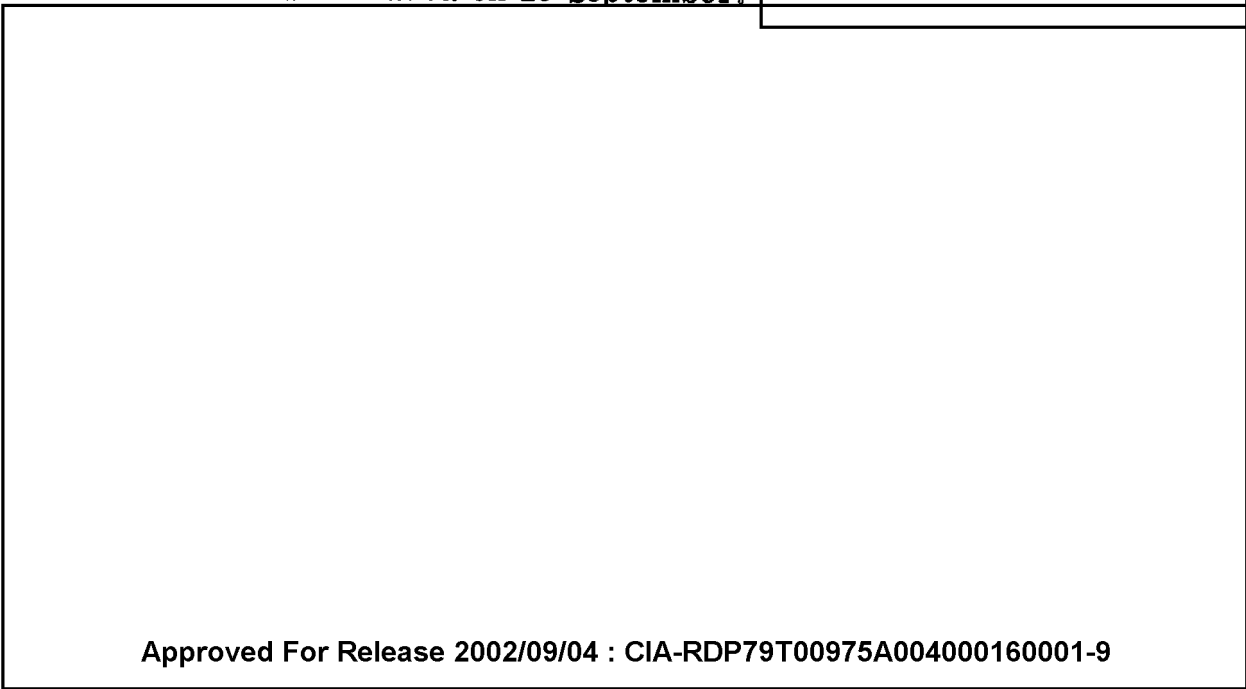
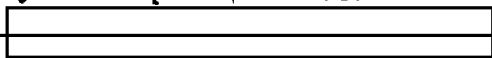
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DAILY BRIEF

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

no
Taiwan Strait situation: The Chinese Communist announcement that parts of Sidewinder missiles fired by Nationalist planes have been recovered and brought to Peiping for "public exhibition" suggests that foreigners now arriving for the 1 October celebrations are to be shown "proof" of American "provocation." Peiping on 29 September issued its 17th warning to the United States against "grave military provocations," and a Defense Ministry announcement on the use of Sidewinders promised "punitive" action against the Chinese Nationalist Air Force. Generally Peiping's propaganda continues to reflect a desire to continue the Warsaw talks, blaming the deadlock on American insistence on an immediate cease-fire but making no threat to suspend the negotiations.

There were no significant military developments in the Taiwan Strait area on 29 September.



no
UAR: Details of the planned centralization of the UAR Government and names of selected officials may be announced soon. Syrian Vice Presidents Akram Hawrani and Sabri al-Assali are likely to be ousted, along with Egyptian Vice President Baghdadi. Nasir appears to be taking steps to control dissident Syrian officials and military personnel. [redacted]

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no
Middle East oil: Nasir's establishment of a "Public Corporation for Petroleum Affairs" to plan UAR petroleum policy, will assure Cairo of control in all details over Syrian oil matters. Cairo has already stymied Syrian negotiations with the American company operating the pipeline from Saudi Arabia, and the new petroleum authority may well emerge as the instrument for implementing Nasir's over-all Arab oil policy toward Western oil companies.

An Arab League spokesman in Cairo has announced that Kuwait, the Middle East's largest oil producer, has applied for membership in the Egyptian-dominated league. Kuwait's adherence could set a precedent for the oil-producing Persian Gulf states of Bahrein and Qatar. [redacted]

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no
Middle East land reform--Iraq: Announcement of a land reform program will strengthen the dominant faction in the Iraqi Government headed by Premier Qasim and deprive advocates of union with the UAR, which has just proclaimed land reform in Syria, of an overwhelmingly popular issue. Land

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reforms in Syria and Iraq will probably increase agitation against the Shah of Iran, who is chiefly dependent on the support of large landowners.

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III. THE WEST

OK France-Guinea: Paris plans to begin early negotiations with Guinea--the West African territory whose "secession" from the French community was acknowledged by France on 29 September--to formalize Guinea's independent status. Guinea Premier Sekou Toure has often expressed the desire to retain close economic and political ties with France following independence.

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III. THE WEST

France to Negotiate a New Independent Status for Guinea

The French Government plans early negotiations to define the new status of Guinea, which rejected the De Gaulle constitution by a ten-to-one negative vote in the 28 September referendum. Paris on 29 September delivered a note to Guinea Premier Sekou Toure acknowledging the West African territory's "secession" from the French community. About two months of negotiations will probably be required to complete the formalities. The bilateral negotiations will prove difficult if the French set too high a price for Guinea's retaining special ties with France.

Meanwhile, the new constitution will not apply to Guinea, and France will arrange the gradual withdrawal of its administrative personnel and financial credits. Paris considers Guinea's juridical status "in suspense" and has warned that diplomatic recognition by other states could lead to "unpleasantness" with France.

Sekou Toure, hoping that Guinea will join the association of free states provided for in the new constitution, has stated that France will always hold first place in Guinea's international relations. Toure, a 36-year-old leftist labor leader with previous Marxist-Leninist sympathies, has promised no "great upheaval" in existing economic and social structures. In addition to his desire for close ties with France, including membership in the franc zone and continued economic assistance, Toure has indicated to the French high commissioner for West Africa that he expects "proper propaganda efforts" will lead to the eventual domination of both Liberia and Sierra Leone by Guinea.

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